

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

On pages 17-19, please amend the following paragraphs of the Brief Summary of the Drawings as follows:

Fig. 5 is a ~~bottom plan~~side elevational view of the Fig. 3 needle-guide.

a¹

Fig. 6 is a ~~side elevational~~bottom plan view of the Fig. 3 needle-guide.

a²

Fig. 22 is a ~~top~~bottom plan view of the second part of the needle-guide as shown in Figs. 11 to 14.

a³

Fig. 28 is a front perspective view of the needle-guide as shown in Figs. 11 to 14.

Fig. 29 is a rear perspective view of the needle-guide as shown in Figs. 11 to 14.

Please amend the paragraph on page 20 beginning on line 20 as follows:

a⁴

The needle-guide 2 has an elongated shape with a wedge-shaped profile tapering from back to front and is composed of two connectable and separable and removably fastenable parts ~~201~~102, 202, i.e. a base part 102 and a second part 202. The two parts define an elongated through hole which extends all along the needle-guide 2 from the rear end to the front head 9 thereof. The elongated hole is designed to accommodate a rodlike tool 3 for diagnostic or therapeutic applications, particularly a biopsy needle, a thermoablation needle, or a needle for injecting chemotherapeutic agents, or the like. The elongated hole has such a size, as related to the diameter of the needle 3 as to be able to hold the needle 3 in the proper position and to allow it to be axially displaced inside the needle-guide 2.

Please amend the paragraph on page 21 beginning on line 20 as follows:

a 5 The base 102 of the needle-guide has a clamping collar 4 at the rear end (with reference to the head 201 of the probe 1), one half 104 thereof being integral with said base 102, whereas the other half 204 of the collar 4 is hinged ~~in~~by hinge 304 to an end of said first half 104, and the two opposite free ends of the halves 104, 204 may be clamped together by screw threaded means 404 in a manner which is typical for clamping collars.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A 6 A needle-guide device, particularly for ultrasound probes, or the like, comprising a base body having means for connection to the probe and at least one elongated guide hole for receiving a needle-like surgical tool, characterized in that said needle-guide device (2, 12) is made of at least two removably connectable parts (~~102, 112; 202, 212~~), which are shaped in such a manner that each of them forms complementary parts of the peripheral delimiting wall of the elongated guide hole for the surgical tool (~~3~~), which peripheral wall parts complete each other when said two parts (~~102, 112; 202, 212~~) of the needle-guide device (~~2, 12~~) are connected, thereby forming an elongated guide hole for guiding the needle with a 360° covering delimiting wall.